

ARCI MEDIA ADVISORY:

Potential Opportunity for Consensus in Thoroughbred Racing?

Can Horsemen, Owners, and Jockey Club Agree?

Respondents participating in the recent ARCI Industry Input survey were asked to indicate whether they were a Member of any of the prominent groups in racing.

Not all respondents indicated an affiliation, but many did. What follows are results provided by individuals who indicated membership in specific organizations.

As you will see the path with the greatest potential for unified support, based on these responses, is the creation of a central rule making entity with oversight by the state racing commissions reorganized into a multi-jurisdiction or national entity (interstate compact).

Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association (TOBA):

Do you think anti-doping policing in racing should be handled by a private entity or a government agency?	%
Government Entity	27.4
Private Group	44.4
Doesn't Matter	28.2

Of those who identified themselves as TOBA members favouring the "Private Group" option, they responded to the accountability options as follows:

A Private Group with no racing commission oversight.	Column1
Acceptable	18.75
Unacceptable	81.25

A private Group with oversight by a federal agency.	%
Acceptable	12.5
Unacceptable	87.5

A private Group accountable to individual state racing commissions.	%
Acceptable	59.3
Unacceptable	40.625

A private Group accountable to state regulators reorganized in a national entity.	%
Acceptable	87.5
Unacceptable	12.5

Of the options presented to achieve uniformity, those who identified themselves as TOBA members responded as follows:

Create a Central Rule Making Entity whose rules apply to all.	%
Preferred Path	83.6
Could Live With	10.9
Last Option	5.5

Pass a Federal Law limiting simulcasting from jurisdictions that don't adopt the uniform standard.	%
Preferred Path	23.1
Could Live With	40.4
Last Option	36.5

Certify compliance with integrity standards and commissions and horsemen's groups can restrict signals from non-compliant states using existing authority.	%
Preferred Path	30.9
Could Live With	56.4
Last Option	12.7

The Jockey Club:

Do you think anti-doping policing in racing should be handled by a private entity or a government agency?	%
Government Entity.	30.7
Private Group.	49.5
Doesn't matter.	19.8

Of those who identified themselves as associated with The Jockey Club favouring the “Private Group” option, they responded to the accountability options as follows:

A private Group with oversight by a federal agency.	Column1
Acceptable	9.7
Unacceptable	90.3

A private Group accountable to individual state racing commissions.	Column1
Acceptable	67.7
Unacceptable	32.3

A private Group accountable to state regulators reorganized in a national entity.	Column1
Acceptable	77.4
Unacceptable	22.6

Of the options presented to achieve uniformity, those identifying themselves as affiliated with the Jockey Club responded as follows:

Create a Central Rule Making Entity whose rules apply to all.	Column1
Preferred Path	71.9
Could Live With	19.3
Last Option	8.8

Pass a Federal Law limiting simulcasting from jurisdictions that don't adopt the uniform standard.	Column1
Preferred Path	36.0
Could Live With	38.6
Last Option	25.4

Certify compliance with integrity standards and commissions and horsemen's groups can restrict signals from non-compliant states using existing authority.	Column1
Preferred Path	40.4
Could Live With	41.2
Last Option	18.4

It is important to note that the Jockey Club is a members-only organization with a relatively small number of individuals who actually are members. As such the extent to which this is representative of actual Jockey Club members is unknown.

National HBPA or THA:

Do you think anti-doping policing in racing should be handled by a private entity or a government agency?	%
Government Entity	35.8
Private Group	33.3
Doesn't Matter	30.8

Of those who identified themselves as NHBPA or THA members favouring the "Private Group" option, they responded to the accountability options as follows:

A Private Group with no racing commission oversight.	%
Acceptable	19.2
Unacceptable	80.8

A private Group with oversight by a federal agency.	%
Acceptable	7.7
Unacceptable	92.3

A private Group accountable to individual state racing commissions.	%
Acceptable	69.2
Unacceptable	30.8

A private Group accountable to state regulators reorganized in a national entity.	%
Acceptable	76.9
Unacceptable	23.1

Of the options presented to achieve uniformity, those identifying themselves as affiliated with a thoroughbred horseman's organization responded as follows:

Create a Central Rule Making Entity whose rules apply to all.	%
Preferred Path	54.5
Could Live With	31.1
Last Option	14.4

Pass a Federal Law limiting simulcasting from jurisdictions that don't adopt the uniform standard.	%
Preferred Path	22.2
Could Live With	29.3
Last Option	48.5

Certify compliance with integrity standards and commissions and horsemen's groups can restrict signals from non-compliant states using existing authority.	%
Preferred Path	38.9
Could Live With	42.5
Last Option	18.6

Those responding that they would “prefer” or “could live with” the creation of a central rulemaking authority (85.6%) or certification and compliance program (81.4%) indicate a possible avenue that could attract support from horsemen. While 51.5% “could live with” or “prefer” a federal law, the split in the horsemen constituency is significant and could potentially block such an effort indefinitely.